

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 DAMASC 01852 211209Z  
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W  
-----211211Z 022895 /11  
P 210829Z MAR 77  
FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2293

S E C R E T DAMASCUS 1852

EXDIS

FOR ATHERTON FROM MURPHY

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PFOR, SY, US  
SUBJECT: KHADDAM VISIT TO WASHINGTON

REFS: (A) DAMASCUS 1650, (B) DAMASCUS 1835

1. KHADDAM ASKED ME MARCH 19 WHETHER IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE TO RESCHEDULE PROGRAM SET FORTH STATE 56009 IF HE WERE TO ARRIVE IN WASHINGTON AFTERNOON APRIL 21 AND STAY THROUGH SATURDAY APRIL 22. SAID HE MUST ATTEND ANOTHER MEETING OUTSIDE SYRIA BETWEEN THAT IN NEW DELHI AND WASHINGTON (NOT MOSCOW, ACCORDING HIS AIDE), WHICH WILL MAKE IT TIGHT FOR HIM TO ARRIVE WASHINGTON APRIL 20 FOR PROGRAM STARTING APRIL 21. HE EMPHASIZED THAT HE DID NOT WISH COMPLICATE EITHER PRES. CARTER'S OR SECRETARY'S SCHEDULE AND WOULD STICK TT APRIL 20 ARRIVAL AS ORIGINALLY AGREED IF CHANGE WERE DIFFICULT FOR EITHER. SAID I WOULD ENQUIRE AND ADVISE.

2. I THEN SUGGESTED HE TAKE ADVANTAGE OF VISIT TO WASHINGTON TO HAVE CHECKUP AT USG MEDICAL FACILITY RE LINGERING EFFECTS HIS GUNSHOT WOUNDS OF LAST DECEMBER. HE ENTHUSIASTICALLY ACCEPTED SUGGESTION AND SAID IF TIME ALLOWED HE WOULD LIKE TO GET COMPLETE CHECKUP. I SAID TIME MIGHT BE TOO SHORT

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FOR LATTER SINCE PROBABLY MORE THAN ONE FULL DAY WOULD BE NEEDED AND I UNSURE IF FACILITIES SUCH AS WALTER REED WERE OPEN SATURDAYS FOR EXAMINATION.

3. PLEASE ADVISE POSSIBILITIES:

A. RESCHEDULING FONMIN'S ARRIVAL FOR AFTERNOON APRIL 21

WITH PROGRAM TO BEING WITH SECRETARY'S DINNER THAT EVENING  
AND MEETING WITH PRESIDENT CHANGED TO FRIDAY MORNING.

B. HAVING WALTER REED GIVE HIM CHECKUP JUST FOR GUNSHOT  
WOUNDS.

C. HAVING FULL PHYSICAL DONE. (HE WOULD WANT DEPART  
WASHINGTON SATURDAY EVENING IN EITHER CASE.)

4. COMMENT:

I RECOMMEND WE ASK KHADDAM TO STICK TO ORIGINAL ARRIVAL  
DATE. THIS WOULD GIVE HIM NIGHT'S REST BEFORE MEETINGS AND  
ALSO PRESUMABLY ALLOW TIME FOR FULL MEDICAL CHECKUP. HOW-  
EVER, KHADDAM IS GIVING ABSOLUTE PRIORITY TO HIS MEETINGS WITH  
PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY. HIS PERSONAL HEALTH FOR HIM IS  
A SECONDARY CONSIDERATION.

5. TO HELP INSURE SUCCESS OF VISIT, AND AM KEEPING IN MIND  
KHADDAM'S WELL-KNOWN VOLATILITY, HE SHOULD NOT LEAVE WITH  
IMPRESSION OF HAVING BEEN RUSHED IN MEETING WITH PRESIDENT.  
WILL SABBAGH BE AVAILABLE FOR INTRPRETING?

6. PLEASE ADVISE STANDARD CHARGES FOR MEDICAL EXAMINATION  
(STATE 60974).  
MURPHY

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**TAGS:** PFOR, OVIP, US, SY, (KHADDAM, ABD AL-HALIM)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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